

[18th October 1927]

4.—(a) A Geologist (the Assistant Superintendent, Geological Survey of India) has inspected the site at Timmalapuram, and sent a preliminary report. He suggested to the local officers that trenches should be dug along the proposed line and when that was done and the actual width of the beds exposed he promised further inspection and report. A staff was sanctioned for this purpose in May—but it could do little before the floods began and further work will hardly be possible before January.

(b) No—the staff was not sanctioned till the end of May.

(c) Next year.

(d) A copy will be placed on the table.^a

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know whether it is not a fact that it was in the third or fourth week of March that the money was sanctioned for the investigation of the Tungabadra project? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ The budget was passed in March.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know why it took two months for sanctioning the necessary staff? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ I ask for notice of that question. The application for sanctioning the staff probably reached the Government only in May.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ In view of the fact that the Geologist has stated that trenches should be dug along the proposed line, etc., may I know whether that work is going on and how long it will take? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ The work cannot be carried on while there is water in the river. The work was begun, I believe, in May, but it had to be suspended and will be resumed shortly.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know how soon the work will be completed? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ That I cannot say.”

Finance

Utilization of the released Provincial contribution.

* 528 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Finance, the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any final decision has been arrived at as to the ways of spending the Provincial contribution that has been released this year, and if so, the various departments for which moneys are to be spent, giving the sums under each heading; and

(b) whether there has been any decision or proposal to reduce to any extent whatever the stamp duties or registration charges that were enhanced a few years ago?

18th October 1927]

A. — (a) The amount of Provincial contribution released this year is Rs. 116 lakhs recurring and Rs. 49 lakhs non-recurring. The budget estimate for this year provides for schemes of new expenditure costing Rs. 89.49 lakhs; of this sum, about 72 lakhs was provided in anticipation of the remission of the Provincial contribution, the balance being met from the Revenue surplus of the year. The 89.49 lakhs were distributed among departments as follows :—

Department.	Amount.
	LAKHS.
	RS.
<i>Transferred.</i>	
Excise	83
Registration	28
General Administration	09
Scientific departments	01
Education	12.10
Medical	4.59
Public Health	7.50
Agriculture	1.11
Veterinary	34
Co-operative Credit	23
Industries	2.73
Fisheries	12
Civil Works, including establishments	23.89
Grants to local bodies for civil works	20.92
Stationery and Printing	21
Miscellaneous (compassionate grants to local bodies).	47
Total ...	75.42
<i>Reserved.</i>	
Land Revenue	13
Forest	2.38
Irrigation	61
General Administration	18
Administration of Justice	35
Jails and Convict Settlements	34
Police	48
Education	78
Medical	56
Public Health	02
Miscellaneous (Labour)	3.91
Civil Works (Agency)	3.87
Stationery and Printing	46
Total ...	14.07
Total (Reserved and Transferred) ...	89.49

[18th October 1927]

Demands for supplementary grants will be placed before the Legislative Council, amounting to Rs 21 08 lakhs recurring and Rs. 24.92 lakhs non-recurring. The following statement shows the distribution of these sums by departments:—

Departments.	Ultimate cost.		Cost in 1927-28.		Total in 1927-28.
	Recurring.	Non-recurring.	Recurring.	Non-recurring.	
	LAKHS RS.	LAKHS RS.	LAKHS RS.	LAKHS RS.	LAKHS RS.
<i>Transferred.</i>					
Education	18.52	3.84	14.26	1.11	15.37
Agriculture .. .. .	.32	2.58	.13	1.56	1.69
Co-operative Credit	1.48	.55	.62	.55	1.17
Veterinary	1.26	.95	.64	.09	.73
Industries .. .. .	.09	1.20	.01	.45	.46
Fisheries .. .. .	.03	.37	..	.22	.22
Excise .. .. .	.24	..	.09	..	.09
Medical	10.01	9.66	4.00	1.24	5.24
Public Health	1.00	11.19	1.00	7.37	8.37
Grants to local bodies .. .. .	..	12.14	..	9.68	9.68
Civil Works .. .. .	..	.58	..	.58	.58
Total	32.94	43.06	20.75	22.85	43.60
<i>Reserved.</i>					
Forest .. .. .	.07	..	.03	..	.03
Irrigation .. .. .	..	.68	..	.68	.68
General Administration .. .. .	..	.16	..	.14	.14
Administration of Justice .. .. .	.02	..	.02	..	.02
Education .. .. .	.03	1.31	.01	.62	.63
Public Health .. .. .	.28	..	.08	..	.08
Veterinary .. .. .	..	.14	..	.10	.10
Labour .. .. .	.22	.50	.19	.50	.69
Civil Works (Agency) .. .. .	..	.20	..	.03	.03
Total .. .. .	.62	2.99	.33	2.07	2.40
Total (Reserved and Transferred).	33.56	46.05	21.08	24.92	46.00

- (b) The Government have decided that it is not advisable to reduce the stamp duties at present. The reduction of Registration fees is under consideration.

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know if the Government have any intention of placing the whole matter before the Council for discussion instead of coming before it piecemeal with these supplementary grants?"

18th October 1927]

The hon. Mr. N. MACMICHAEL :—"The supplementary demands now placed before the House amount to about 33½ lakhs which practically means the whole of the balance available for recurring expenditure. The total available balance for recurring expenditure is only about 44 lakhs and out of this supplementary demands come to 23½ lakhs. It seems to me therefore that the whole matter is being placed before the House."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know whether the Government considered the desirability of the question of the utilization of the released provincial contribution being discussed as a whole? If this course is not adopted, when each demand comes up we cannot raise all the points we would like to raise but would have to confine ourselves to the points relevant to each demand. Therefore I am asking whether the Government cannot give us an opportunity of discussing this whole question involved in the 3½ crores now reduced."

The hon. Mr. N. MACMICHAEL :—"The amount available is not 3½ crores, but only 44 lakhs. This figure of 44 lakhs is arrived at thus: the normal revenue is about 16½ crores. If we deduct from this the temporary remission of 49 lakhs as also our recurring and normal non-recurring expenditure, we get a balance of 44 lakhs only. And the supplementary demands come to 33½ lakhs."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know if the Government made a statement at any stage that the deficit was intended to be wiped off by the expected remission?"

The hon. Mr. N. MACMICHAEL :—"Yes, Sir. I think it is clear from the budget itself."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know from the hon. Member whether he is going to consult this House with regard to the proportion to be given to the various subjects for which money is wanted?"

The hon. Mr. N. MACMICHAEL :—"Yes, Sir. This House will be consulted."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know from the hon. Member why the Government, in dealing with a large remission like this, has not thought it right to outline a policy of expenditure and consult this House on that policy and then spend the amount instead of spending the amount piecemeal, here, there and everywhere so as to be ineffective for any national purpose?"

The hon. Mr. N. MACMICHAEL :—"It is on the vote of this House that the surplus will be utilized."

Distribution of the remission from Provincial contribution.

* 529 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state how the remission from the Provincial contribution has been distributed among the several departments and what proportion of it was given over to the Transferred half?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to question No. 528.